

## **FACILITY REGISTRY SYSTEM**

### **What is it?**

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Environmental Information created the Facility Registry System (FRS) (<http://www.epa.gov/enviro/html/facility.html>) in May 2000. FRS is a centrally managed database that identifies facilities/sites subject to environmental regulations or of environmental interest. FRS will create high-quality, accurate, and authoritative facility identification records through rigorous verification and management procedures that incorporate information from program national systems, state master facility records, and data management personnel. EPA intends to populate FRS with approximately one million active facility identification records from all existing EPA media program data systems and state master records. FRS will centrally manage this basic facility identification data in partnership with EPA media programs, EPA regions, and States.

### **Why?**

EPA is responding to the public's increasing demand for access to high quality environmental information – especially through the Internet. The public also wants one source of comprehensive (air, water, waste, etc.) environmental information about facilities. FRS achieves this integration. FRS uses both relational database technology and the State/EPA Facility Identification Data Standard (see EPA's Environmental Data Registry, located at <http://www.epa.gov/edr/>, for the data standards), which has helped harmonize facility records within both EPA and the States.

### **What are the benefits?**

FRS will:

- Reduce the long-term reporting burden for facilities, states and programs.
- Improve data quality by helping to reduce errors in state and Agency facility information.
- Provide better tools for cross-media environmental analysis.
- Provide better public access to the Agency's environmental information.
- Give facilities the flexibility to review and update their identification information.

### **Who is involved?**

EPA's Office of Information Collection in the Office of Environmental Information is the organization responsible for implementation and management of FRS. Important partners include EPA media programs, EPA regional data stewards and data system coordinators, state data managers, public interest groups, and regulated facilities.

**What is the (September 2001) status?**

FRS has approximately 610,000 records as of September 2001. EPA media program systems will provide additional sets of facility records for review and incorporation into FRS throughout FY2002. States with data integration efforts and an interest in data exchange with EPA will also be encouraged to provide data. As of September 2001, over seven states have done so.

**For more information, contact:**

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